

## A SHORT STORY ABOUT ONSET, CAPE COD, MASSACHUSETTS

**T**hank you for your interest in Beth Israel of Onset Cape Cod Synagogue. Onset has many places available for long or short stays, and offers delightful beaches and charming cottages. Onset offers the Orthodox vacationer an unusual hidden jewel to explore and the original Jewish Cape Cod experience.

Our summer Shul constantly greets new visitors, and offers an intimate, friendly and participative service. Our visitors include singles to families to retired couples—all are welcome. And, after spending a week on Cape Cod immersed in Main Street Americana, you can return to a familiar Shabbos, surrounded by friends.

Everyone who finds our Shul is surprised and intrigued, and becomes instantly enamored. I know after one visit, you'll think of Onset as your secret place, too.

Long-time members return to Onset for their annual vacations from New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Florida, Montreal, even California—young couples stay in Onset because they came as children. Onset is the quintessential summer Jewish community of friends who spend summer time together once a year, every year. New people discover us, old friends return.

Our synagogue was founded soon after World War II, and was Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik's summer Shul. Friday night services begin at 7:30, and Shabbos morning services are at 8:45 am. If you would like to lead the services, say Maftir, or have to recite Kaddish, let us know.

Our Shabbos minyan tends to be smaller during the 3 weeks in July. On those Shabbotim, we still attract typically 10-20 men, and an equal number of women. During August (e.g. after Tisha B'Av), the minyan expands quite a bit, and we will usually have daily services besides the weekend minyanim. We have a resident Director who maintains the Minyan and reads the Torah on Shabbos, Monday and Thursday.

Every Shabbos morning we provide a kiddush, giving our guests the opportunity to meet and talk. For almost 20 years now, we have a Pirke Avot class every Shabbos afternoon, and a shiur between mincha and maariv.

Onset is a picturesque Victorian village, and offers clean, sandy beaches, chartered fishing boats, Canal Cruises, Free Thursday night movies, parades and street fairs in the town center, and, of course, an amazing 4<sup>th</sup>-of-July fireworks display.

We are about an hour from Boston or Providence, maybe 4 from New York so a Friday afternoon commute to Onset in time for Shabbos works, and buses arrive in Buzzards Bay or Wareham, each about 15 minutes away.

Onset is just the best location on Cape Cod to vacation. In addition to a completely relaxing religious environment, it is blessed with clear, crisp ocean breezes and provides a perfect vacation base for enjoying Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard or Nantucket, Woods Hole, Plymouth, Orleans, the National Seashore, Provincetown, Boston and Newport, RI

Local inns and hotels, located on Onset Bay, are within a 5 minute walk of the Shul. These include the Onset Bluffs Condos, and the Inn on Onset Bay. There are also many cottages for rent. Nearby supermarkets carry brand name Kosher products. The Boston Vaad symbol is KVH. Meat products should be brought from home. The inns and hotels have kitchenettes with varying amenities.

Cape Cod has miles of wonderful beaches, snug harbors, charming villages, historic sites, aquariums, golf, tennis, shopping, go-karts, baseball, water parks, movies, summer theater, antique shops, bicycle trails, kayaking, fishing, whale watching and so much more. In Onset, you can enjoy all this along with a delightful, appropriate Shabbos experience.

*Summer on Cape Cod. And by all means, Summer in Onset.*

### CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL OF ONSET, CAPE COD, MASSACHUSETTS

Mel Greenbaum, Florida, 561.479.1780  
SHUL PHONE IN SUMMER, 508.291.1058

Wendy Hauser, Boston, 781.784.7153  
WWW.CAPECODSHUL.ORG

## ACTIVITIES

### DIRECTIONS TO ONSET

The shul is located at the corner of Onset Avenue & Locust Street at 7 Locust St. Search on 255 Onset Ave, Onset, MA 02558 in mapquest.

**BY CAR FROM BOSTON:** Take 128 South to I-24 South to Exit 14A onto I-495 South. I-495 South turns into I-25. Exit 2, "Onset / Wareham."

Bear right at the top of the ramp. Proceed to the third set of lights (the Atlantic Motel will be on your left. Turn right turn onto Depot St. and go over the railroad tracks. **Bear left at the fork** onto Onset Ave. Proceed approximately 1.5 miles to Onset center. (nice children's playground just before Onset center).

Go through past the dock on the right, around the bluffs overlooking the beautiful harbor. You are now near the cottages & hotels.

**FROM NEW YORK, POINTS SOUTH:** Take I-95 North to I-195 East (in Providence) to Exit 22A(I-495 / I-25) South. Take the first

exit, Exit 1, "Onset / Wareham." Follow directions above.

**By Bus** From Boston. Take the Bonanza bus to Bourne or Wareham, 10 minutes away. You must arrange taxi transport to Onset beforehand.

*Beth Israel of Onset has no financial affiliation with any of these facilities or services. This listing is presented only as a service to our guests for reference.*

*We cannot and do not accept any financial responsibility for arrangements made with these facilities or services.*

*Congregation Beth Israel of Onset does not supervise any Kosher or Kashrut facilities offered or implied.*

### FOOD ARRANGEMENT FOR ONSET

In Onset proper is the Onset supermarket. Carries a selection of foods, fruits and vegetables. Very accessible. Cash machine outside.

On Route 28, **Stop and Shop**. To go there, drive through Onset to the railroad tracks (about 2.5 miles) turn right at the light. Some prepackaged kosher selections. Also

on Rt 28 is **Freihofer's Outlet**. They have many Kosher breads and **Entenmann's** baked goods too!

You will also find a **Friendly's** at the mall. The **Ice Cream** is under KVH supervision. There is a cash machine in the parking lot of this shopping mall.

**Tova Yarmush, Tova's Catering**, 508.286.2242 can provide Shabbos meals for your stay.

*Don't forget to stop at the small fruit and vegetable stands around Onset and on Route 25. These delightful stands offer fresh corn and other produce ripe from local farms. These just can't be beat!*

In **Sharon**, you will find **The Butcherie.II**. In **Brookline**, you will find **The Butcherie**, as well as Shomer Shabbos bakeries. See website:

<http://www.kashrut.com/travel/Boston/>

### Questions?

**Call : Wendy Hauser 781.784.7153**

**Email: [ehauser@capecodshul.org](mailto:ehauser@capecodshul.org)**

[www.capecodshul.org](http://www.capecodshul.org)

**PLACES TO STAY** The Shul is at **7 Locust Street, Onset, MA**, corner of Locust St & Onset Ave, next to 147 Onset Ave. See [www.onsetvillage.com](http://www.onsetvillage.com) for hotels and things to do. See [www.shellpointere.com](http://www.shellpointere.com) for rentals.

Hotels	Onset Bluffs Condos	508.291.6182	Ask for Nicole. In Onset Center. Very nice, new apartments
	Inn on Onset Bay	508.295.1126 <a href="mailto:reservations@innononsetbay.net">reservations@innononsetbay.net</a>	21 room inn, some connecting, some with full kitchens or kitchenettes, ask for rooms with view of Onset Bay. Visit us on our web site: <a href="http://www.innononsetbay.net">www.innononsetbay.net</a>
	Onset Village Inn	508.273.0070	13 5 <sup>th</sup> St. About ½ mile from shul. Ask about 4 or 7 bedroom cottages.
B&B	Point Independence	866.827.4466	Inn & Day Spa; Beautiful! Victorian seaside mansion; not kosher, no kids.
Homes	Christine Barrington	781.899.1376	Cute 3 bedroom pink house around the corner from the beach.
	Ms. Kate Kominsky	508.698.0624	4 bedroom home. Deck. 2 blocks from beach.
	Ms. Janice Wentzel	781.963.1449 day 508.230.5887 eve	Two cottages, 1 large, 1 small.
	Beth Macaluso	617.945.3983	4 bedrooms; Sleeps 10; \$1,450/wk; very close to Shul and beach.
	Mary Mullaney	508.528.0461	Two bedroom cottage (BR's are upstairs). Right off water. This is nice.
	Gary Machado	781.635.5569	Newly renovated 3 bedroom house. Very close to shul.
Realtors	<b>Shell Pointe Realty</b>	<b>508.295.6560</b>	<b>Lauren Carden can help you find a house to rent. Say we sent you.</b> <a href="http://www.shellpointere.com">www.shellpointere.com</a>

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**O**nset is centrally located for trips down the Cape, to Boston, Plymouth, Newport or Martha's Vineyard. Just before the Sagamore Bridge is an information center. Most of the shopping malls have guides as well. There will typically be discount coupons inside. We've collected some of our favorite ideas here, and we have a selection of guides in the Shul for you to pick up. We hope this listing is helpful. Let us know of any secret, special places you find that should be included here for others to enjoy.

**Beach:** No matter where you go on Cape, the beach is only minutes away. Bring a kite or book and spend the day with your toes in the sand. Don't forget your pail & shovel.

**Onset** has miles of open beaches on Buzzards Bay and a zillion small protected beaches perfect for toddlers & kids. The waves are imperceptible, except for splashing. You can easily find an empty quiet beach for you and your kids to enjoy.

**Cape Cod National Seashore**, of course, is incomparable. 45 minutes away. **Old Silver Beach**, Falmouth, is beautiful.

**Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures. 508.240.1211** *Fantastic!* Explore Nauset Marsh or Pleasant Bay with naturalist and educator Dick Hilmer. Great trip for **bird watching** too!

**Light Houses**—there are more than a few to be found. Chatham Light. Nauset Light. Just like the postcards.

**Bicycle trails. Cape Cod Canal** 10 minutes from Onset, 7 miles on each side. Rent bicycles @ **Sailworld**, 139 Main St. Buzzards Bay, 508.759.6559 (ask about windsurfing lessons)

**Shining Sea Trail**, 4 mile ride along the coast, runs between Falmouth and Woods Hole, *Really Beautiful!*

**Cape Cod Rail Trail.** Begins in **Dennis** on Rte 134 and goes to **Wellfleet**. Bicycle trail map can be found in **Falmouth** at the visitor center on Route 28, or at the **Sagamore** rotary visitor center. **Nauset Trail** start at the **Salt Pond Visitors Center in Eastham** and runs for 1.6 miles to **Coast Guard Beach**.

**Whale Watching.** These are unbelievable. Captain John's boats will take you on a 4 hour excursion, 800.242.2469, leave from Plymouth, fishing trips, too. Whale Watcher Cruises from Barnstable, 800.942.0920. This will be your vacation highlight.

**Seal Cruises. These are great!** About 1.5 hours on the boat. Leave from Chatham. Beachcomber 508.945.5265, Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary, 508.349.2615, or Monomoy Island Ferry 508.945.5450. Plan to spend some time on South Beach. Dress in layers as it can cold out on the water!!!

**Martha's Vineyard.** Island Queen ferry in Falmouth (35 minute ride) 508.548.4800, Steamship Authority in Woods Hole (1 hour ride) 508.477.8600, Hy-Line Cruises in Hyannis (50 minute ride) 800.492.8082. The ferries have specific schedules, often requiring reservations. On the Vineyard, you can rent bicycles, mopeds or take the bus. To bring your car over you need to make reservations months ahead...a lot of trouble. Be sure to look for the **gingerbread village** in Vineyard

Haven. Edgartown has beautiful turn-of-the-century **captain's houses**. The beaches are everywhere and stunning.

**Nantucket Island.** A two-hour boat ride from Hyannis. Or, a ½ hour plane ride. Many people stay the night. The island is as amazing as they say it is. Serene beauty. Timeless tranquility. Old Quaker houses. Museums, quiet streets, rolling countryside with curving beaches.

**Water Wizz.** Right in **Onset** on Rt. 6. Giant waterslide, "not so lazy" river ride. Wild Tube Ride. Miniature golf. 508.295.3255. Voted best Water Park in New England!

**Cartland**, Rte 28 in **Onset**. Go-carts, batting cages, bumper boats & mini-golf. **Miniature Golf Courses** are everywhere on the Cape. Almost as prevalent as antique stores. **Pirate's Cove**, W. Yarmouth, open 'till 11pm.

**Calamity Cave Mini Golf** on Rte 28 in **Onset \$6-play all day!** **Real golf**—the Little Yellow Cape Cod Guide lists no less than 26 public courses and their phone numbers.

**Buzzards Bay Scuba Dive Center.** 2 East Blvd. **Right in Onset** 508.291.7282, buzzardsbaydivecenter.com

**Adventure Isle Amusement Center.** 2 miles South of Bourne Bridge on Rt. 28. Long Go-Kart track, mini golf, Bumper Boats, kiddie rides, Laser Tag, Roller Skating. 800.53-KARTS. Look for coupons in guidebooks. **Kids will love this place!**

**Historic sites, antique shops** Tucked willy nilly about Cape Cod, (even in Onset), especially on Rte. 6A.

**Thermometer Museum in Onset**, 508.295.5504. It's in the Guinness World Record Book!

**Aptucet Trading Post Museum**, Bourne **508.759.9487** Trading Post built by the pilgrims. Nice place to picnic.

**Canal Cruises.** Leave right from Onset dock. **Jazz** cruises as well. **Fishing.** Boats leave from Onset. Also Buzzards Bay, Plymouth, Falmouth, Hyannis. Actually, from just about every town on the Cape. **Hyannis Harbor Cruises** 508.778.2600. There's even a **Jazz Nightclub**, right in Onset.

**Woods Hole.** Little free **aquarium** just right for little people. Great for a rainy day, *Closed Sundays!*

**Oceanographic Institute exhibit center**, 15 School St. Step inside full size model of submersible Alvin. 508.289.2252. Sun. 12-4:30, M-F, 10-4:30. **Oceanquest** Marine education onboard 60' research vessel, Hands-On fun & learning! 800.376.2326. **Zooquarium** aquarium & zoo combined, they even have pony rides. Kid love it! Rte 28 W. Yarmouth, 508.775.8883.

**Plimoth Plantation.** The spelling is correct, honest! See the way the early Americans lived. The Plantation has live actors portraying actual residents, in period dress. Really great. **Plymouth National Wax Museum, Plymouth Rock, Mayflower II** (reproduction ship). **Cranberry World**—see how cranberries are cultivated and grown. Plymouth is maybe 25 minutes from Onset... go out Onset on rt. 6/28, up along the Canal, rt. 3 north for 5 or 6 exits.

**Route 6A.** This is the scenic road and runs from Sandwich to Orleans. Each town along the way is picture perfect. Clapboard and cedar shingled homes. Rose covered walls. White picket fences. Take your camera and your time. Have fun antiquing!

**Sandwich.** Located just across the Sagamore Bridge. Sandwich is the Cape's oldest town. Small enough for a relaxing walking tour. While in Sandwich, visit **Heritage Museums and Gardens**, 508.888.3300, 100 acres of cultivated landscapes, an antique automobile museum, antique toys, a baseball exhibit, the world's largest collection of Currier & Ives prints, and a 1912 carousel. Also, the **Sandwich Glass Museum**, 129 Main Street. Watch **daily glassblowing demonstrations** 10:00-4:00, Museum Open 9:30-5, **508.888.0251**

**For more great info:** [www.kidsonthecape.com](http://www.kidsonthecape.com)

**Chatham Fish Pier** kids will love to watch the day's catch being unloaded (and the seals swimming around looking for a hand-out).

**Orleans.** What a beautiful village! Look for Tree's Place, showing arts and crafts from artisans across Cape Cod. A tremendous collection of kaleidoscopes, music boxes and ceramic tiles.

**Cape Cod National Seashore: Salt Pond Visitor Center** Rte 6, Eastham 508.255.3421. Daily ranger-led programs, **make reservations early!** Well-marked self guided trails too.

**Provincetown.** The tip of Cape Cod. Lifestyles are a bit, well, exotic, **so be forewarned!** Art galleries abound. Nice beaches & bicycle trails. The drive from Onset is about 1.5 hours, and the traffic back on Rt. 6 is relentless on Sunday afternoon. Another way to go is a ferry from Plymouth. Call Cape Cod Cruise Lines, 508.747.2400.

**Blueberry Picking-Yes!**

**Rainy Day Activities: Ryan Family Amusements** 508.759.9892, 200 Main St. Buzzards Bay (10 min. away) Candlepin bowling & game room, ask about **bumper bowling** for the kids (look for coupons in guidebook). Paint your own ceramics studios, **Color Me Mine** in Mashpee Commons, 508.539.8500. **Pottery By Me**, in Brewster 508.896.6140. **Cape Cod Museum of Natural History** has many indoor and outdoor programs, creative exhibits and nature trails 508.896.3867. Rte 6A in Brewster.

**Cape Cod Potato Chip** factory tour, Free, 508.775.7253, M-F 9-5:00. Hyannis.

**Movies.. Buzzards Bay Theater** 105 Main St. Buzzards Bay 508.759.1171. **Wellfleet drive-in** 508.349.7176, **Wellfleet FlagshipCinemas** W. Wareham 508.291.4100. Exit 2 off 495, 13 min. from Onset.

**Summer Theater** on the Cape is **fantastic!** The **Cape Cod Melody Tent** in Hyannis highlights first class music revues in the round 508.775.5630. The **Cape Playhouse**, 508.385.3911 **Dennis. Monomoy Theater** 508.945.1589 **Chatham. Cape Rep Theatre** 508.896.1888 **Brewster. Payomet Performing Arts Center** 508.487.5400, **Truro. Harwich Junior Theater** 508.432.2002 x4.

**Cape Baseball.** AAA ball played across the Cape. Our local teams are in Wareham and Bourne. Free! Pack a picnic supper and Enjoy- **Great Family Fun!!!**

**Cape Cod Lavender Farm:** In Harwich, 508.432.8397 Enchanted garden & Lavender Shop. Visit in July at harvest time.

**Scargo Tower** in **East Dennis** has *breathtaking views* of Cape Cod Bay, **very romantic sunsets!** Scargo Hill Road, off Rte 6A. Don't forget your camera!

**Shopping.** The Cape is filled with discount stores. You'll find Dansk, Van Heusen, Hanes, Timberland, and Corelle, among others. The Bourne outlet center (Izod, Liz Claiborne, nine west) is right at the Buzzards Bay rotary (10 minutes away). The **Cape Cod Factory Outlet Mall** is at the first exit over the Sagamore Bridge. **Mashpee Commons** over 90 beautiful shops, lots of fun.

**New Bedford** has a wonderful restored historic waterfront and a famous Whaling Museum. In **Fall River**, remember to visit **Battleship Cove** and see the Battleship Massachusetts. Go to Fall River and New Bedford by driving I-495 north to I-195 west for just under an hour.

**Newport, R.I.** is a little over an hour away. (I-495N to I-195W. Then follow the signs). Here you'll find the **Touro Synagogue**, one of the oldest synagogues in North America, and a stop on the Underground Railroad. Newport is home to the Newport Cup Race. Finally, Newport was, and is, the summer home of the incredibly wealthy. The gardens are fantastic; the homes stupendous. Many of these mansions have been opened to the public and operate tours year round. **The Breakers**, home to the Vanderbilts, is absolutely overwhelming. **Rosecliff** too. You can buy a multi pass and save \$.

**Please let us know by email or phone call when you plan on visiting so we can confirm the number of people we can count on for minyan for any given day, Thanks!**

**More questions? Call Wendy Hauser 781.784.7153**

**Email:** [whauser@capecodshul.org](mailto:whauser@capecodshul.org)

**BOSTON RESTAURANTS**

<http://www.kashrut.com/travel/Boston/> for more.

Milk St. Café	Dairyp	Milk St., Post Office Sq, Boston
Rami's	Israeli grill	Harvard St., Brookline
Taam China	Chinese	Harvard St., Brookline
Taam China II	Chinese	108 Oak St., Newton
Ruth's Kitchen	Chinese take out	Harvard St., Brookline
Rubin's	Deli	Harvard St., Brookline
<b>Pastryland &amp; More</b>	Bakery	Harvard St., Brookline
Café Eilat	Pizza	Harvard St., Brookline

**Prepared Dinners:** Tova Yarmush, Tova's Catering 508.286.2242

**Mikve:** Chevrat Nashim in Sharon, MA 781.784.7444